GOVERNMENT OF INDIA MINISTRY OF COMMERCE & INDUSTRY DEPARTMENT FOR PROMOTION OF INDUSTRY AND INTERNAL TRADE

RAJYA SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 2021. TO BE ANSWERED ON FRIDAY, THE $12^{\rm TH}$ MARCH, 2021.

INDIGENOUS PRODUCTION OF QUALITY HOUSEHOLD UTILITY GOODS

2021. SHRI SAMBHAJI CHHATRAPATI:

Will the Minister of **Commerce and Industry** be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government has any plan to encourage indigenous production of complete range of household goods, electrical and electronic items based upon the technology developed by Indian scientists and technologists at par with international standards to reduce dependence on imports;
- (b) if so, the details thereof mentioning the major fields;
- (c) whether Government proposes to introduce star rating of such manufactured items based upon their quality by establishing an independent body other than BIS; and
- (d) if not, the reasons therefor?

ANSWER

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE & INDUSTRY (SHRI SOM PARKASH)

- (a) & (b): As per the extant policy, manufacturing of household goods, electrical and electronic items do not require any Industrial License. FDI is also permissible under automatic route. Government is keen to encourage investments in this sector including items based upon the technology developed by Indian scientists and technologists at par with international standards. For example, Ministry of Electronics & Information Technology (MeitY) through a novel PPP model, had funded a project for the development and implementation of Indian Conditional Access System (iCAS) for Set Top Boxes (STBs). The iCAS is beneficial to domestic STB manufacturers and Operators because it is available to them at a price of USD 0.5/ license for a period of three years, as against market price of USD 3-5/ license for other competing products from foreign sources. The deployment of iCAS enabled STBs is underway in the country.
- (c) & (d): Bureau of Energy Efficiency (BEE) has already introduced star rating of such manufactured items based on their quality. Bureau of Energy Efficiency implements the BEE star labelling scheme under which manufacturers of appliances/ equipment are granted permission to affix star label based on compliance of their product with safety and performance requirements in accordance with relevant BIS standards.
